



(I trust) he will do for his People in this Land; and that he has spar'd me the chief of Sinners, to see *this Day of his wonderful Grace*: Oh Praise, praise him, on my Behalf; and also wrestle for me when nearest to his Seat, that, I may know the Love of CHRIST which indeed passeth Knowledge, and that it may constrain me to love and live to him. ---

But this is the Consolation, *The LORD reigneth; there is no Wisdom, nor Counsel, nor Understanding against him*; he will carry on his own Work in his own Way; *Not by Might, nor by Power, but by MY SPIRIT, saith the LORD of Hosts*: Here we may rest. I hope you who are Friends to this Day, will have the Guidance of the HOLY SPIRIT in drawing up something in Favour of *this glorious Work*, that the *Subjects and Friends of it abroad*, may praise GOD for what he has done among his People here: And if you should be led to this, would it not be proper to send a Draft of it to those who could not be present with you, that not a *Hand* may be wanting where-ever there is an *Heart* for it. And, *Oh that something may be said against ARMINIANISM as well as ANTINOMIANISM*. I wish you much of the Presence of CHRIST, and that whatever may be debated, may be with HIS SPIRIT, and issue in his Glory.

I am your Brother and Friend in the dear JESUS,  
John Rogers.

Kittery, July 4. 1743.

No. VIII. *From seven Rev. Pastors in the County of Hampshire.*

*Reverend and Honour'd Sirs,*

WHEREAS an *Advertisement* hath lately been published, wherein it is signified, that it is the Desire of a Number of Ministers that there should be a *meeting* of all such *Ministers* in this Province as are perswaded that there has of late been a *happy Revival of Religion* in the Land, at *Boston*, the *Day after Commencement*, to give a joint TESTIMONY to the *late glorious Work of God's Grace*, and to consult what should be done to promote this Work, and to suppress those Things that bring a Reproach upon it and hinder it; and in the same Advertisement it is desired that if any such Ministers are not able to be present at this Interview, they would not fail to send their

their *Testimony* and *Thoughts* in *Writing* : We whose Names are subscribed to this, living at a great Distance, and our Circumstances not well allowing us to go so great a Journey at the Time proposed, would hereby signify ; *That according to what Understanding we have of the Nature of Christianity, and the Observation we have had Opportunity to make, we judge that there has been within the last two Years and an half, a blessed Out-pouring of the SPIRIT OF GOD in this County, in awakening and converting Sinners, and in inlightning, quickning and building up Saints in Faith, Holiness and Comfort ; which has been attended in great Numbers with an abiding Alteration and Reformation of Disposition and Behaviour.* And particularly we would hereby declare to the Glory of GOD's Grace, that we judge that there has been a happy Revival of Religion in the Congregations that have been committed to our pastoral Care, and that there are many in them that, by abiding Manifestations of a serious, religious and humble Spirit, and a conscientious Care and Watchfulness in their Behaviour towards GOD and Man, give all Grounds of Charity towards them, as having been sincere in the Profession they have made. And however there has been, especially in some Places, a Mixture of Enthusiasm and false Religion, and some have run into great Errors in their Conduct, and some have fallen away, and there is a Declension in others that is to be lamented ; yet we think the Effect has been such, and still continues to be such, as leaves no Room reasonably to doubt of GOD's having been wonderfully in the midst of us, and such as has laid us under great Obligations forever to admire and extol the Riches of his Grace in doing such great Things for us. -----

Thus Rev. Sirs, Begging of him that he would be with you in your Meeting, and guide you in your Thoughts and Conclusions with Respect to these Things, and direct you to that which may be for his Glory and the Prosperity of Zion, and desiring your Prayers to GOD for us, and the Flocks committed to our Care, we remain

Honoured and dear Sirs,  
Your Brethren and Fellow-Servants  
in the Gospel Ministry,

Stephen Williams, *Paster of a Church in Springfield.*

Peter Raynolds, *Paster of the Church in Enfield.*

Jonathan Edwards, *Paster of the Church in Northampton.*

Samuel Allis, *Pastor of the Church in Somers.*

John Woodbridge, *Pastor of the second Church in Hadley.*

David Parsons, jun. *Pastor of the third Church in Hadley.*

Edward Billing, *Pastor of the Church in Cold-Spring.*

County of Hampshire June 30. 1743.

No. IX. *From two other Rev. Ministers in the County of Hampshire; who having seen the abovesaid Attestation, they in another Letter express their Concurrence therewith in the following Terms.---*

*Hadley, June 29. 1743.*

**T**HIS Line occasioned by a Paper sign'd by some of our *Fathers and Brethren* in the *Ministry* in this County respecting the *late happy Revival of Religion*, waits on you to let you know, *that we can heartily join with those Rev. Gentlemen in giving our TESTIMONY to every Thing there inserted concerning the late Revival of the great and glorious Work of divine Grace in our own and the neighbouring Churches: The happy Fruits whereof are conspicuous in the Lives and Conversations of many of our late Converts especially.*

*Timothy Woodbridge, Pastor of the Church in Hatfield.*

*Chester Williams, a Pastor of the first Church in Hadley.*

No. X. *From the Rev. Mr. PUTNAM, Pastor of the 2d Church in Reading, in the County of Middlesex.*

**I** Find that *such of our Brethren who are perswaded there hath of late been a happy Revival of Religion thro' an extraordinary divine Influence in many Parts of this Land*, are desir'd to manifest the same, either by giving *their Presence at the appointed Meeting*, or by *writing*. The Circumstances of my Health makes riding grievous to me: but *I am ready and that freely and I hope thankfully to declare that I have had the Opportunity, thro' the tender Compassions of a merciful GOD, to see much of the gracious Work of GOD in the Revival of decaying Religion among the People committed to my pastoral Care; and this without such Disorders and Extrems that are so much complain'd of in many Places: the Worship of GOD not disturbed.* And to give you as brief an Account as I can.

Sometime

Sometime the *beginning of March 1742*, under a Sense of the great Decay of Religion among us, we kept a *Day of Fasting and Prayer*, to seek to GOD for the *pouring out of HIS SPIRIT upon us*: and GOD was pleased out of his abundant Grace to give us *speedy Answers of Prayer*. For the space of *five or six Weeks*, more or less of my People younger and elder came to my House every Day in the Week *except Sabbaths*; and manifestly under a Work of *Conviction*, deeply concerned for the State of their Souls, and many of them expressing themselves in these Words; *O Sirs, what shall I do, what shall I do to get rid of my Sins?* Complaining of the *Load of Guilt* on their Consciences, and of the *Power of Sin* in their Souls, of the *hardness of their Hearts*, and of the *Sense of GOD's Wrath* due to them: And some signifying to me, that *they even now felt what they only before knew as by Hearsay*; that the *Heart is so desperately wicked*, and by *Nature so unfit for Heaven*. Some when they heard Mention made of *CHRIST* and of the *Mercy of GOD*; I cannot relate the *greatness of the Distress* that it put them into, to consider that their Sins were against *such Mercy, such Love!*

But I will not enlarge. I know this was the *Work* of the *SPIRIT of GOD* as a *Spirit of Bondage and Fear*, thus convincing and humbling them: And the most of these we have Grounds to hope have been since as *fully convinced of Righteousness* and of *Judgment*, of the *Al sufficiency of CHRIST* as *Priest and King*; as they were *convinc'd of their Sins and Misery* before; and we charitably hope have experienced by *Faith* in HIM through the Merits of his Righteousness, and the Power of his Grace, *that Rest* that he gives to such weary Souls that receive him with their whole Heart: And there has been *large Additions* to the Church considering the Number of the People. And not only has this been the happy Case of some that were *without the visible Church*, but even several of the *Members of the Church* have been very deeply concerned about the State of their own Souls: And I hope it has been for their everlasting Good. The *SPIRIT of GOD* has in Mercy to our Souls been as a *refining Fire* in this Respect, I trust I can say; and has search'd this *Jerusalem* as *with Candles*: And I hope that both *Foolish and Wise* have been awakened now while *Oyl* and Increase thereof may be had. And not to enlarge, as I might do, I would mention *one Instance* in particular: A *Sister of our Church* aged *Ninety*

*one*



*one Years*, who hath been under *Desertion* even to a very great Degree for *above twenty Years*, (who was esteem'd converted in Youth) she in this Time has been favour'd with the *Light* of GOD's *Countenance*, to her abundant Joy, and remains so.

As to *my People in general*, there has been, and I hope remains a *Reformation* in many Respects which might be mentioned. And my Thoughts of the *Work* of GOD among us are still the same, That it calls for a *publick Acknowledgement* to the *Praise* of GOD; notwithstanding *some Disorders* and *Errors* there may be in the Land. Can we not distinguish between that which is of GOD and that which is *not*? Shall we say there is *no Wheat* because there are *Tares* and *Chaff*? *The Work proves it self*: and those that have experienc'd it on their own Souls, doubtless are best able to say how it is. Let our *earnest Prayer* be to the *GOD* of all *Grace* that where he has begun it, he would *carry it on*, and *begin* it where it is not begun; that the *Kingdoms of this World* may become the *Kingdom* of OUR BLESSED LORD AND SAVIOUR JESUS CHRIST; that he would go on in a *Way* of *Mercy* to pour out HIS SPIRIT upon us, and of *his Blessing* upon our Children; that we may all know the LORD from the *eldest* to the *youngest*; and may be ready and prepared as a *Bride* for *his coming*.

I am your Brother in the Ministry of the Gospel.

Reading, June 30th. 1743.

Daniel Putnam.

No. XI. *From the Rev. Mr. PEABODY, Pastor of the Church in Natick, in the County of Middlesex.*

Natick, July 4th. 1743.

AS to my own Thoughts of the present Day; I freely profess, that I believe there has been *a very remarkable and glorious Work* of GOD in *many Parts* of *this Land* of *late Years*, and it is *still in some Measure going on*: altho' at the same Time, I believe GOD has permitted some, through an over-heated Zeal, to do those Things which have very much hindered the Progress of this good Work, particularly by prejudicing People against their own Pastors, encouraging Separations, and encouraging Lay-Exhorters; and laying too much Stress on Crying out, on being under strong Convictions and then receiving Comfort, &c. I don't look on these Things as any Part of the good Work. For altho' I hope and believe, that where these extraordinary Things have been encouraged there

there have been some savingly brought Home to CHRIST ; yet as far as I can possibly inform my self, there have been many more in Proportion savingly converted, where Ministers and People have not encouraged such Things : And I am fully perswaded it will in Time appear evidently to be so. *There have been very observable Strivings of the ever BLESSED SPIRIT on the Hearts of many, especially Young People, in convincing and enlightening, and I hope converting them ; in my neighbouring Towns : as in Medfield, Dedham, Needham, Medway and Sherbourn, &c. where the Ministers have been lively and faithful. And among my little People, (I would mention it to the Glory of the rich Grace, and of the BLESSED SPIRIT of GOD) there have been very apparent Strivings and Operations of the HOLY GHOST among Indians and English, Young and Old, Male and Female. There have been added to our Church (of such as I hope shall be saved) about fifty Persons of different Nations, since the Beginning of last March was two Years, whose Lives in general witness to the Sincerity of their Profession.* Here, we have never had any crying out in an extraordinary Manner, but the HOLY SPIRIT has been pleased to work in a *more calm Way* ; but I hope effectually. But I must mention it, altho' with Sorrow, that for some Months past (altho' some are under powerful Operations) yet there has not appeared so much of the genuine Operations of the SPIRIT as heretofore ; People's Minds have seemed and do seem too much taken up with *disputing* about Persons and Things ; some are for one Minister and some for another, and some I think may say can't bear sound Doctrine ; which with us, has arisen (as I apprehend) from some ignorant & erroneous Persons who have spread & propagated corrupt Doctrines ; as a Specimen of this they say I preach dangerous Doctrines because I have preach'd *that a Person may be converted and not certainly know it, &c.*

Upon the whole then, I am humbly of Opinion, that as there ought to be a publick ATTESTATION to the glorious *Work of divine Grace* among us ; so it ought to be so *distinctly considered*, and so *distinguished* from what is a Dishonour to it ; that all may know what we understand by the *Work of GOD* among us ; and a full explicit *Testimony* ought to be born by you against all such Things, as in any Measure tend to *blamish* or *binder* the *Work of GOD* among us : And I believe the more particular and express you be, it will be so much the better.

Finally,

Finally, I earnestly pray that the glorious HEAD of the Church will vouchsafe his gracious Presence and particular Influence and Direction to, and with you, in what is before you ; and that you and all of us may be owned and honoured as Instruments in his Hands, of promoting his Interest and Glory here, that so we may have the Reward of faithful Servants hereafter. I am your Brother and Servant,

*Oliver Peabody.*

P. S. I would particularly remark that some with whom I have conversed date their *Convictions* which have been still carried on without any great Intermission, before ever Mr. *Whitefield* came hither. And also that about *fifteen Years* ago we had something like this, at *Natick*.

No. XII. *From the Rev. Mr. TUCKE, Pastor of the Church in Gosport, on the Isle of Shoals, in the Province of NEW-HAMPSHIRE.*

SEEING in the *Boston Gazette* of the 31st of *May* last an Intimation that it is desired and proposed by a Number of Ministers in Town and Country, that such of their Brethren as are persuaded there has of late been a happy Revival of Religion, thro' an extraordinary divine Influence, in many Parts of this Land, and are concerned for the Honour and Progress of this remarkable Work of GOD, may have an Interview at Boston the Day after the approaching Commencement, to consider &c. But if any who heartily concur in the End and Design of this Proposal, be hindered in Providence from giving their Presence at this designed Interview, it is earnestly desired they would send their ATTESTATIONS & communicate their Tho'ts seasonably in writing. According to this Desire & Proposal I had design'd to be at the Interview, but Providence is now sending Sickness into my Family, so that I can't be in Boston this Week, I therefore send my Thoughts in writing.

*I acknowledge the Work in this Land to be a blessed Work of GOD: And I believe that it is the Duty of CHRIST's Ministers to give an open conjunct TESTIMONY unto it. I apprehend there are in one Place & in another certain abominable Antinomian, Arminian, Socinian, Pelagian, Familistical, &c. Errors, and some Disorders in Practice, which ought to be testified against.---*

*We have a Revival of Religion among us. I beg your Prayers for my Family, my People, & myself. I am with all due Regards,*

Your humble Servant,

*John Tucke.*

*Gosport, July 4th 1743.*

*(To be continued.)*